

### REMARKS

By amendment herein, some minor correction have been made in the specification. No new matter has been added.

This application, as amended herein, contains claims 1, 9-13, 27, 34-37 and newly added claims 38-44. Claims 14-24 were previously canceled without disclaimer or prejudice to being presented in a divisional application. Claims 2-8, 25, 26 and 28-33 are canceled herein.

The Examiner is thanked for the allowance of claims 1 and 9-13.

The rejection of claims 2-4 and 5-8 is now moot due to the cancellation of claims 2-8, and similar claims 34-38.

The recitations of claims 25 and 26 are now included in claim 27. In view of the indication that claim 26 is directed to patentable subject matter in the Office Action of January 30, 2006, it is thus submitted that claim 27, and the claims depending from claim 27, are all directed to patentable subject matter.

To assist the Examiner, it is noted that claim 34-38 are similar in wording to allowed claims 9-13, but depend from amended claim 27.

Newly added claim 39 combines recitations from original claims 1 and 8, but recites at least one separation membrane selected from the group consisting of a polyimide and


SILK<sup>TM</sup>. The only prior art rejection of claim 8 was based on Goldsmith et al., which does not teach or suggest a polyimide or SILK<sup>TM</sup> for the separation membrane. Thus, consideration of claim 38 is respectfully requested.

New claims 40-44 are similar in wording to allowed claims 9-13, but depend from claim 39.

Conclusion

In view of the allowable nature of the subject matter of the claims, if the Examiner cannot issue an immediate allowance, it is respectfully requested that she contact the undersigned to resolve any remaining issues. Contact information for the undersigned, which was noted in the Change of Correspondence Address filed in this application on June 6, 2006, and additional contact information, is set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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1/19/2007  
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